

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:OEXC, TD

SUBJECT: SMITHSONIAN FOLKLIFE FESTIVAL

1. MR. JULIAN EUELL, ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC SERVICE, SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION, ARRIVING PORT OF SPAIN 19 OCTOBER 2110 HOURS, BRITISH WEST INDIES FLIGHT 401. HOTEL RESERVATION REQUESTED.

2. PURPOSE IS TO EXTEND SMITHSONIAN INVITATION TO GOVERNMENT TO PARTICIPATE IN 1976 FESTIVAL ON TERMS ROUGHLY LIKE 1974 PARTICIPATION. INVITATION REQUESTS 25 FOLK ARTISTS, ONE GUIDING FOLKLORIST, ONE TOUR ADMINISTRATOR.

3. SIX CARIBBEAN AND SIX AFRICAN NATIONS BEING INVITED TO PERFORM TWO WEEKS EACH DURING TWELVE WEEK FESTIVAL WITH U.S. ARTISTS, THEN TOUR FOR TWO OR THREE WEEKS TO JOIN BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS IN FOUR OR SIX CITIES. TRINIDAD/ TOBAGO TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED JULY 11-25 OR ELSE AUGUST 22 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 5, PAIRED WITH EITHER LIBERIA OR SENEGAL. AGAIN, "AFRICAN DIASPORA" ILLUSTRATES
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CONTINUITY OF BLACK CULTURAL PATTERNS WITH CARIBBEAN AND

AFRICAN FOLK ARTISTS PERFORMING WITH AMERICANS WHO CARRY
ON SAME TRADITIONS.

4. AGAIN, TRINIDAD/TOBAGO ASKED TO FUND PREPARING
PARTICIPANTS FOR TOUR, COMPENSATING PARTICIPANTS FOR
LOST WORK-TIME, ROUNDTrip AIRFARE TO WASHINGTON.
SMITHSONIAN PAYS ALL DOMESTIC TRAVEL, BOARD, LODGING,
TEN DOLLARS PER DAY POCKET MONEY EACH PARTICIPANT.
TOUR CONTINGENT ON SMITHSONIAN BEING SATISFIED CLAIMS
FOR LOST WORK-TIME BEING ADEQUATELY COMPENSATED.

5. EUELL AND DIASPORA STAFF CALLED ON MISS INDRANI
SINANAN SEPTEMBER 16 AT TRINIDAD/TOBAGO EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, AND LEFT COPY OF INVITATION AND DISCUSSED
AT LENGTH SMITHSONIAN DESIRE FOR AUTHENTIC BEARERS OF
FOLK TRADITIONS WHICH RECUR IN AFRICAN/AMERICAN
CULTURES, TO BE SELECTED BY SMITHSONIAN FOLKLORIST
WORKING WITH THEIR DESIGNATED FOLKLORIST, PROBABLY
DURING ONE WEEK'S VISIT LATE NOVEMBER. IF SMITHSONIAN
OBLIGED TO SELECT FROM PRIZE-WINNING VILLAGE, FOLKLORIST
WOULD WISH TO CONDUCT RESEARCH IN VILLAGE TO SELECT
ARTISTS CLOSEST TO MEETING SMITHSONIAN REQUIREMENTS.

6. MS. SINANAN RECOMMENDED EUELL CONFER WITH MRS. JOYCE
WONG SANG IN PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, EXTENDING
SMITHSONIAN INVITATION TO HER, AND THEN MEET WITH DR.
J.D. ELDER IN SAME OFFICE TO DISCUSS FOLKLORIC CONTENT
AND IDENTIFY FOLK ARTISTS AND CRAFTSPERSONS. REQUEST
USIS SET UP APPOINTMENTS MONDAY, OCTOBER 20, IF
POSSIBLE.

7. SMITHSONIAN MAILING USIS COPY OF INVITATION,
FESTIVAL BACKGROUND MATERIALS, EUELL BIO DATA. WILL
APPRECIATE POST GUIDANCE AND COOPERATION. KISSINGER

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